

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 08/01/08.
Claims 1-13, 15-33, 35-47 are pending in this application.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Applicant's representative, Mr. Sean M. Conner, on September 25, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims 11, 12

Claim 1 has been amended as:

A method for electronically searching a user-personalized library of content, comprising:

- (a) receiving one or more search terms from a user having an electronically-searchable personalized library of content, the personalized library including a text searchable database and a page image database;
- (b) electronically searching the text searchable database for pages of content that match the search terms to produce search results;

- (c) providing the search results to the user;
- (d) receiving a search result selection from the user;
- (e) preparing a substitute image of a page image in the page image database corresponding to the search result selection from the user, wherein a portion of the content in the page image is suppressed in the substitute image in accordance with one or more access rules to limit the amount of content in the substitute image;
[[and]]
- (f) providing location information to the user that identifies the location of the search terms in the substitute image; and
- (g) providing to the user the substitute image responsive to the user's search result selection such that a portion of the content in the page image is suppressed in the substitute image provided to the user with an instruction to highlight the search terms in the substitute image, wherein the instruction to highlight the search terms in the substitute image comprises an instruction to apply a layer of color on or near the search terms.

Claim 13 has been amended as:

The method of Claim [[11]] 1, ~~in which the electronic application of highlight to the substitute image comprises placement of~~ wherein the instruction to highlight the search terms in the substitute image comprises one of an instruction to apply a layer of color on or near the search terms or an instruction to place a visual indicator next to the search terms.

Cancel claims 25, 26

Claim 24 has been amended as:

A method for preparing a user-personalized library of content for electronic searching and delivery of content to a user, comprising:

- (a) acquiring a general library of content that includes images and corresponding text of pages of content;
- (b) preparing a page image database comprised of the images of pages of content;
- (c) preparing a text searchable database comprised of the corresponding text of pages of content;
- (d) receiving from a user a selection of content in the general library to form a user-personalized library of content that the user can electronically search using the text searchable database;
- (e) identifying an image of a page of content in the page image database based on a search of the text searchable database; and
- (f) preparing a substitute image of the identified image, wherein the substitute image is modified from the appearance of the identified image to automatically suppress a portion of content of the identified image in accordance with one or more access rules to limit the amount of content in the identified image, such that when the substitute image is displayed, a portion of the content in the identified image is suppressed in the substitute image; and

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(g) defining classes of content and assigning content in the user's personalized library to one or more of the classes, and limiting a search of the user's personalized library to content in a specified class.

Cancel claims 45, 46

Claim 33 has been amended as:

A computer system that provides electronic searching of a user-personalized library of content, comprising a processor, a search server in communication with a database server, in which the database server is configured with a general library of content that is accessible to multiple users, the general library including (1) a page image database containing images of pages of content, (2) an access rights database containing access rules that define the scope of content to be displayed to each user, and (3) a text searchable database containing text and identifying information indicating the page images in the page image database that contain the text, the search server being configured with a search engine comprised of computer-implemented instructions that enable the search server to:

- (a) receive one or more search terms from a user having established a personalized library within the general library of content,
- (b) search the full text of the user's personalized library for pages of content that match the search terms,
- (c) provide the results of the full text search to the user for selection by the user,

(d) prepare a substitute image of a page image in the page image database corresponding to the search result selection from the user, wherein a portion of the content in the page image is suppressed in the substitute image in accordance with one or more access rules to limit the amount of content in the substitute image, [[and]]

(e) provide location information to the user that identifies the location of the search terms in the substitute image; and

(f) provide to the user the substitute image responsive to the user's search result selection with an instruction to highlight the search terms in the substitute image, wherein the instruction to highlight the search terms in the substitute image comprises an instruction to apply a layer of color on or near the search terms.

Claim 47 has been amended as:

The computer system of Claim [[45]] 33, ~~in which the electronic application of highlight to the substitute image comprises placement of~~ wherein the instruction to highlight the search terms in the substitute image comprises one of an instruction to apply a layer of color on or near the search terms or an instruction to place a visual indicator next to the search terms.

Reasons for Allowance

4. Claims 1-10, 13, 15-24, 27-33, 35-44, 47 are allowed, now renumbered as 1-39.

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5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The present invention is directed to systems and methods of selecting and searching content in an electronic library of content.

Claim 1 recites, or similarly recites, in combination with the remaining elements, a method for electronically searching a user-personalized library of content, comprising:

(e) preparing a substitute image of a page image in the page image database corresponding to the search result selection from the user, wherein a portion of the content in the page image is suppressed in the substitute image in accordance with one or more access rules to limit the amount of content in the substitute image;

(f) providing location information to the user that identifies the location of the search terms in the substitute image; and

(g) providing to the user the substitute image responsive to the user's search result selection such that a portion of the content in the page image is suppressed in the substitute image provided to the user with an instruction to highlight the search terms in the substitute image, wherein the instruction to highlight the search terms in the substitute image comprises an instruction to apply a layer of color on or near the search terms.

The closest prior art, et al. Hartman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7007034), shows a substantially similar a web-based system, method and program product for creating a compilation of content stored in a data repository as a group of hierarchically related content entities, managing, displaying, and searching the content, then creating and exporting compilations of content for publication (Summary). Turner (US Patent No. 6,633,742) discloses information outside the scope of subject matter of interest

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suppressed (col. 10, lines 51-54). Blumberg (US Pub No. 20040205546) teaches displaying a portion of document pages ([0016]). However, Hartman, Turner, and Blumberg, singularly or in combination, still fail to anticipate or render the above cited limitations obvious.

Claim 24 recites, or similarly recites, in combination with the remaining elements, a method for preparing a user-personalized library of content for electronic searching and delivery of content to a user, comprising:

(f) *preparing a substitute image of the identified image, wherein the substitute image is modified from the appearance of the identified image to automatically suppress a portion of content of the identified image in accordance with one or more access rules to limit the amount of content in the identified image, such that when the substitute image is displayed, a portion of the content in the identified image is suppressed in the substitute image; and*

(g) *defining classes of content and assigning content in the user's personalized library to one or more of the classes, and limiting a search of the user's personalized library to content in a specified class.*

The closest prior art, et al. Hartman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7007034), shows a substantially similar a web-based system, method and program product for creating a compilation of content stored in a data repository as a group of hierarchically related content entities, managing, displaying, and searching the content, then creating and exporting compilations of content for publication (Summary). Turner (US Patent No. 6,633,742) discloses information outside the scope of subject matter of interest suppressed (col. 10, lines 51-54). Blumberg (US Pub No. 20040205546) teaches

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displaying a portion of document pages ([0016]). However, Hartman, Turner, and Blumberg, singularly or in combination, still fail to anticipate or render the above cited limitations obvious.

Claim 33 recites, or similarly recites, in combination with the remaining elements, a computer system:

(d) prepare a substitute image of a page image in the page image database corresponding to the search result selection from the user, wherein a portion of the content in the page image is suppressed in the substitute image in accordance with one or more access rules to limit the amount of content in the substitute image, [[and]]

(e) provide location information to the user that identifies the location of the search terms in the substitute image; and

(f) provide to the user the substitute image responsive to the user's search result selection with an instruction to highlight the search terms in the substitute image, wherein the instruction to highlight the search terms in the substitute image comprises an instruction to apply a layer of color on or near the search terms.

The closest prior art, et al. Hartman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7007034), shows a substantially similar a web-based system, method and program product for creating a compilation of content stored in a data repository as a group of hierarchically related content entities, managing, displaying, and searching the content, then creating and exporting compilations of content for publication (Summary). Turner (US Patent No. 6,633,742) discloses information outside the scope of subject matter of interest

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5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Miranda Le whose telephone number is (571) 272-4112. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James K. Trujillo, can be reached on (571) 272-3677. The fax number to this Art Unit is (571)-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2100.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <<http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>>. Should

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Miranda Le/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2169